

Antidegradation Alternative Analysis

American Energy Corporation
Century Mine
Wayne Township, Belmont County, Ohio

- 10A. *Provide a description of any construction work, fill or other structures to occur or be placed in or near the streambed. Identify all substances to be discharged, including the cubic yardage of dredged or fill material to be discharged to the surface water. (OAC 3745-1-05 (B)(2)(b)).*

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Description of Construction Work, Fill or other Structures:

The project entails construction of a coarse coal refuse disposal facility as a valley fill within an unnamed tributary to Piney Creek. The valley-fill structure construction will begin on the 1050' elevation terrace of the former Allison Mine coal refuse structure.

The site will be developed in three phases. Phases 1 and 2 are intermediate stages that will fill the east and west forks of the tributary to elevations of 1210 feet. Phase 3 will cover both these phases as well as the remaining valley trunk to outcrops of the Allison refuse pile. The ultimate height of the structure will be 320 feet, when measured from the Allison refuse pile toe, at elevation 970 feet to the projected 1288.6 feet maximum crest elevation. The thickness of fill under the maximum crest elevation will be approximately 134 feet. The maximum fill thickness will be 200 feet, occurring where phase 3 overlaps the toe sections of phases 1 and 2.

The coarse coal refuse disposal capacity is 14.3 million cubic yards. The projected landfill area is 112.2 surface acres. The required permit area is 154.4 acres with the inclusion of environmental controls. The estimated project life is 7 to 9 years.

All precipitation runoff from unaffected portions of the water shed will be diverted around the disposal facility. Any precipitation falling within or passing through the coal waste disposal facility will be directed to ponds and treated, if necessary. The ponds will discharge to Piney Creek.

Initial construction includes installing all necessary erosion and sediment controls, excavating sedimentation ponds, clearing and grubbing vegetation, stripping and stockpiling topsoil, construction of groundwater underdrains, constructing diversion ditches, constructing haul roads, placement of a three-foot thick clay liner, and construction of a leachate collector system.

Upon completion of the project, the coal refuse will be capped with two-feet of clay, another two-feet of earthen material, then seeded. The site will be reclaimed in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations of the State of Ohio and the United States Government.

Substances Discharged:

Only fill materials are to be placed below the ordinary highwater mark (OHWM) in the tributary. These materials are composed of unclassified earthen sub-grade used as a foundation and the clay liner.